ABSTRACT

A navigation system includes an automatic speech recognition program that matches spoken words that describe geographic features, such as places, street names and points of interest, to entries in a word list. The word list contains a limited number of entries. In order to increase the likelihood that a word spoken by a user of the navigation system is included among the limited number of entries contained in the word list, the word list is built to include entries that correspond to the named geographic features closest to a current position of a vehicle in which the navigation system is installed. As the vehicle travels through a geographic area, the word list is rebuilt to include entries that correspond to the named geographic features closest to the new current vehicle position. In addition, the word list also contains a limited number of entries that correspond to named geographic features that may not be close to the current vehicle position but that are included because of their popularity or importance.